

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

There are no changes in the claims. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A floating island planting system, comprising:  
  
a float ring formed as a circular walled member of closed-cell polyethylene foam having a first diameter;  
  
a garden planter formed in a bowl configuration with a collar of greater diameter than said first diameter, the bowl of said garden planter being dimensioned for nesting in said float ring, and said planter being defined by a plurality of holes through the closed bottom; and  
  
a fill mix residing in said planter, said fill mix comprising alternating layers of calcined montmorillonite clay and potting soil.
2. (Previously Canceled)
3. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 1, wherein said float ring is formed from a strip of closed-cell polyethylene foam that is heat sealed end-to-end.
4. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 3, wherein said garden planter is defined by a plurality of 0.25" diameter holes to provide for the inflow of water.
5. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 4, further comprising a mesh covering all of said plurality of holes.

6. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 4, wherein said fill mix further comprises a layer of potting soil overlying a layer of clay.

7. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 6, wherein said fill mix further comprises two layers of potting soil sandwiching a layer of clay.

8. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 1, wherein said garden planter is black to resist ultra-violet (UV) damage from sunlight.

9. (Original) The floating island planting system according to claim 8, wherein said floating ring is black to resist ultra-violet (UV) damage from sunlight.